GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3822
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2006
ALARMING RISE IN PROSTITUTION
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp increase in prostitution during the last three years in the country particularly in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures taken or being taken by the Government to check sharp rise in prostitution;

(d) whether any study has been conducted by National Human Rights Commission in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a) to (c): As per statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act 6598, 5510 and 5748 cases were reported in the country during 2002, 2003 and 2004 respectively thereby showing a mixed trend. Similarly 69, 52 and 123 cases under the same Act were reported in Delhi during this period which shows a decline in 2003 and an increase in 2004 over 2003.

`Police` and `Public Order` are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State Government. However, the Union of India has from time to time issued advisories to the State Governments and Union Territories to make concreted efforts to improve the administration of Criminal Justice System and to take effective measures to control crimes against all vulnerable sections of society including women.

(d) to (e): The National Human Rights Commission in collaboration with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi conducted an Action Research on Trafficking in Women and Children in India. On the findings of NHRC on this research being made available, the Union Government advised Governments of concerned States to evolve a holistic approach encompassing prevention, rescue and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking and also evolve a comprehensive strategy for effectively dealing with the problem. The need to sensitize and train police officials at all levels was emphasized and the State Governments advised that the police be asked to immediately carry out special drives in the most vulnerable areas.